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Letter dated 16 March 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and referring to the letter of 6 January 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations (A/59/663-S/2005/5) and its annexes, I have the honour to state that the Iranian islands of Abu-Musa, the Greater Tunb and the Lesser Tunb are integral and eternal parts of the Iranian territory, and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects any claim to the contrary, including the claims raised in annex I to the aforementioned letter.

My Government, further, regards all measures taken by Iranian officials in those islands to be in conformity with its rights of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In line with the principled Iranian position of enhancing stability and tranquillity in the Persian Gulf region, as well as in the spirit of good-neighbourly relations, the Iranian Government has always offered to negotiate with the relevant officials of the United Arab Emirates with a view to removing any misunderstanding between the two countries with regard to the implementation of the 1971 memorandum of understanding between Iran and Sharja.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehdi **Danesh-Yazdi**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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